

FINANCIAL SECRETARIAT.

Passes orders on the report of the Public Accounts Committee on the Audit and Appropriation Report for 1929-30.

READ—

- Audit and Appropriation Report of the Comptroller on the accounts for the year 1929-30.
 2. Report of the Public Accounts Committee on the Audit and Appropriation Accounts for 1929-30.

ORDER No. FL. 2251-2310—G. F. 64-31-1, DATED 2ND OCTOBER 1931.

Government are pleased to pass the following orders on the more important points brought to notice, as the result of the investigation by the Public Accounts Committee into the Audit and Appropriation Accounts of 1929-30:—

PART I.

1. *Paras 3 and 4 of the Report: Variations in Actuals from Grants.*—As in respect of previous years' accounts, comment is again made on the wide divergence between estimates and actuals in the accounts under review and the Committee emphasise the need for the closest scrutiny by Heads of Departments of the programmes of capital expenditure before approaching Government for provision of funds. Government endorse this view.

2. *Para 5 Ibid: Excess over Grants.*—The Committee observe that the system under which the Comptroller forwards monthly statements of expenditure to Heads of Departments for enabling them to exercise adequate control over expenditure has not prevented excesses over grants. This is not a satisfactory position. The Comptroller is requested to examine the question and to report in what respects the existing arrangements might be improved so as to secure the object in view. Government agree with the Committee that Heads of Departments should carefully watch the progress of expenditure and take prompt action for obtaining sanction of the Legislature before the close of the year when expenditure is likely to exceed the grant.

Government accept the Committee's recommendation to pass the several excesses over grants noticed by them.

3. With reference to one item of excess over grant, *viz.*, of Rs. 80,920 under Demand No. 19 XXIV Railways, the Committee note that the total working expenses of the Railways worked by the Government for the year 1929-30, exceeded the sanctioned estimate by Rs. 3.39 lakhs, that a sum of Rs. 2.43 lakhs out of this was met by reappropriating the savings in the provision under working expenses of Lines worked by the Madras and Southern Mahratta Railway Company and that nevertheless there remained an uncovered excess of Rs. 80,920 at the end of the year. And in this connection the Committee propose, with the concurrence of the Agent, Mysore Railways, that Demand No. 19 may be split up into parts, one relating to the revenue account of the Railway worked by the Company, and the other of the lines worked by the Government.

This suggestion is reserved for separate consideration.

4. *Paras 6 and 8 Ibid: Additional and Supplementary Grants.*—Government agree with the Committee that, as far as possible, all items of expenditure for which additional and supplementary grants might be required during the course of a year should be foreseen, and provided for in the original budget, and that every endeavour should be made to minimise occasions for additional and supplementary grants.

PART II.

AUDIT REPORT.

5. *Para 10 Ibid: Non-submission of Completion Reports.*—The Committee have noticed several cases of delay in the submission of completion reports in the Public Works and Electrical Departments and have rightly observed that the estimates of works

which are practically complete should not be left open on the ground that some small items included in them remain to be worked out. Government endorse the Committee's view and direct that in such cases, the project estimates should be closed at the earliest possible date, the items of work left over being supported by fresh estimates.

6. *Para 11 Ibid: Irregular Certificate.*—The attention of Heads of Departments is invited to the observation made by the Committee in this paragraph.

7. *Paras 12 and 13 Ibid.*—Periodical stock-taking and elimination of obsolete and inefficient stores are essential items of work in Departments which maintain large stocks. Failure to conform to the standing orders on this subject is serious and personal responsibility should be enforced to make good losses involved by neglect of duties.

The Chief Electrical Engineer is requested to submit a full report of the investigation made by the Stores Committee constituted in Government Order No. Fl. 2320-79—G. F. 271-26-9, dated 23rd September 1927. His opinion is invited on the suggestion made by the Committee for the periodical examination of Electrical Stores by Officers outside the Department.

8. *Para 14: General Irregularities.*—In reviewing the irregularities in cash transactions reported by the Comptroller, the Committee consider that they have been occasioned often by the permanent advances being larger than requirements and accordingly suggest curtailment of the amount of these advances. They emphasise also the need for the enforcement of adequate safeguards against irregular withdrawal of quasi-public moneys kept in Savings Banks as well as against utilisation of departmental receipts on departmental expenditure. The Comptroller is requested to examine these points and submit a special report to Government with his own recommendations.

9. *Para 17 Ibid: General Remarks.*—Government note with regret the Committee's observations made in this paragraph that there were a number of noticeable irregularities in the Departments of Education, Forest, Agriculture and Gardens and that the Heads of Departments should be specifically instructed to take all necessary action for bringing about an improvement in the position. Government trust that the suggestions made by the Committee will receive the careful attention of all Officers concerned and they direct that in respect of the items not finally dealt with by the Committee, the Departmental investigation should be promptly completed and the result reported to Government.

B. SRINIVASA IYENGAR,
Secretary to Government,
Financial Department.

Economy in Stationery and Printing Charges.

READ—

Instructions Nos. 12 and 13 of Government Order No. Fl. 1795-1850—G. F. 54-31-1, dated the 14th September 1931, regarding economy in expenditure on account of Printing and Stationery.

2. Letter No. A1. 173, dated the 22nd September 1931, from the Comptroller to Government, enquiring if the current year's sanctioned grants under "16 Stationery and Printing" be treated as reduced to any extent, and requesting that the amount up to which charges may be admitted in audit during the current year may be indicated in respect of

- (1) Stationery and Printing in general, and
- (2) Printing Work got done by Departmental Officers in Private Presses chargeable to the Departmental or 'Stationery and Printing' budgets.

ORDER No. FL. 2496-2556—G. F. 54-31-6, DATED 7TH OCTOBER 1931.

The attention of the Comptroller is drawn to Government Order No. G. 2524-5—P. & S. 22-31-2, dated the 23rd September 1931, ordering reductions in the grants under the Budget of "16 Stationery and Printing." Regarding charges on account of printing work got done in the Private Presses, they may be admitted in audit subject to a limit of 50 per cent of the present level.

B. SRINIVASA IYENGAR,
Secretary to Government,
Financial Department.

Further instructions for effecting Economies in the Budget Grants of 1931-32.

READ—

Government Order No. Fl. 1795-1850—G. F. 54-31-1, dated 14th September 1931, issuing further instructions for enforcing economies in the Budget Grants of 1931-32.

Letter No. 146 T. A. D. B., dated 22nd September 1931, from the Comptroller to Government seeking further instructions:—

“With reference to Government Order No. Fl. 1795-1850—G. F. 54-31-1, dated 14th September 1931, containing instructions for effecting economies in the Budget Grants of 1931-32, I have the honor to request that definite instructions of Government may kindly be communicated early on the following points of doubt felt by the Audit Sections of my office:—

(1) Whether the arrangements made to fill up leave and other vacancies under clauses 2 and 5 require the specific sanction of Government in each case and whether such sanction may be required in audit.

Though in clause 1, it has been laid down that as a rule no vacancies should be filled up, clause 2 permits such vacancies being filled up in *exceptional cases* temporarily on the minimum pay possible (without making seriatim or grade to grade promotions). Similarly, clause 5 permits grant of leave *involving extra cost* on grounds of ill-health supported by Medical Certificates or for other urgent or unavoidable cause. The authority competent to allow arrangements being made, treating the case as exceptional, and the circumstances or limitations under which such exceptional course may be adopted are not defined. Unless this is done, it will be possible for an officer to fill up all vacancies, thus frustrating the object of Government and the Audit Office will also not be in a position to see if the Government Order is complied with or to object to or to bring to notice departures therefrom.

(2) Whether the reduction of the budget provision for repairs and maintenance of buildings is intended to apply also to buildings under the administrative charge of departments other than the Public Works Department, (e.g., Forest, Railway, Agricultural, Gardens, etc).

(3) Whether the reduction of fixed travelling allowance applies also to conveyance allowances now allowed for the maintenance of horse (provision for which appears under “Fixed Travelling Allowance” in most cases) and also to consolidated or conveyance allowances for maintenance of motor vehicles and of bicycles, the maximum rate for the last of which have recently been reduced from Rs. 7-8-0 per month to Rs. 5 per month (*Vide* Government Order No. Fl. 466-540—S. & A. 22-31-2, dated 16th July 1931).

(4) Whether charges on account of printing letter heads, etc., at private presses incurred as per Appendix XII, M. C. A. C., Vol. I, Sl. No. 38 and under certain special orders can be passed in audit in future under the present order.

(5) Whether the purchase locally of stationery articles up to Rs. 20 delegated to Heads of Departments (*Vide* Sl. No. 42 of Appendix XXII) can be admitted in audit as hitherto.

2. The instructions referred to in clauses 6, 7, 12, 13 and 14 and in the last sentence of the Government Order appear to be merely for the guidance of departmental officers and the audit office will bring to the notice of Government only cases if any wherein the expenditure incurred is considered to be unnecessary or excessive or unusual.”

ORDER NO. FL. 2729-775—G. F. 54-31-9, DATED 10TH OCTOBER 1931.

The points raised by the Comptroller are dealt with below seriatim:—

Point (1) The answer is in the affirmative in the absence of any general sanction accorded in favour of any particular Department, or in respect of any class of vacancies.

(1) (a) Vacancies may be filled up in exceptional cases temporarily on the minimum pay, and also subject to clauses (i) and (iv) of Government Order No. Fl. 739-90—G. F. 21-31-1, dated 27th July 1931, pending further orders of Government.

Leave.—The reservation provided in the Government Order is intended to avoid unnecessary references to Government. The Comptroller is competent to report to them cases where the ruling is evaded or violated.

Point (2) The answer is in the affirmative.

Point (3) Conveyance allowance is dealt with in a separate order which may be awaited.

Points (4) and (5). The answer is in the affirmative subject to the condition that expenditure should not exceed 50 per cent of the present level.

Para (2) The answer is in the affirmative. Reference is invited to the reduction effected in the budget grants under ‘16 Stationery and Printing’—*Vide* Government Order No. G. 2524-5—P. & S. 22-31-2, dated 23rd September 1931.

B. SRINIVASA IYENGAR,

Secretary to Government,
Financial Department.

Daily Allowance in addition to Railway Fare.

READ—

Letter No. 29908, dated 26th June 1931, from the Registrar, Mysore University, *re* the grant of Daily allowance in addition to Railway fare for halts when the arrival and departure are on the same day.

(Extensio).

In forwarding herewith a copy of letter No. 1445, dated the 17th March 1931, from Dr. J. F. Robinson, F.A., M.D., F.A.C.S., F.R.C.S., (Edn.), Principal, Medical College, Mysore, regarding the grant of daily allowance for halts when the arrival and departure are on the same day, I am directed to state that the question was considered by the University Council at the meeting held on the 28th May 1931, when it was resolved that the Council is strongly in favour of the proposal so far as attendance at University meetings is concerned and that a recommendation be made to Government with the suggestion that the rule be special for University Officers in view of the fact that the proposal would prevent unnecessary detention of Officers of the University on days other than the days of meetings.

I am to observe that while Non-Official Members are paid daily allowance for the days of meetings, the payment of daily allowance to official members is governed by the rules in the Mysore Service Regulations, and they are not given the daily allowance if the arrival and departure happen to be on the same day of the meeting and they are given daily allowance for only one day when the arrival and departure are on consecutive days. It may be pointed out that in the case of the University, meetings are generally held in Bangalore or Mysore at both of which places, there are facilities for arriving in the morning and returning the same evening. This course is generally to be preferred whenever attendance at a meeting involving a single sitting is required. This, however, does not absolve the members attending, from liability to expenditure while out of headquarters. There is therefore need for payment of daily allowance. It may be added that if daily allowance is permitted as recommended above, the necessity for officers leaving headquarters on the previous day or returning thereto on the following day will be obviated.

The Council are therefore strongly of the opinion that the official members of the University staff who are not touring officers, should be given daily allowance for attendance at meetings (not held at their headquarters) irrespective of the times of arrival and departure.

I am to forward herewith an extract from the proceedings of the Council meeting and to request that you will be so good as to obtain kind sanction of Government to the recommendation.

ORDER No. FL. 2196-2245—S. & A. 120-21-2, DATED 2ND OCTOBER 1931.

Government are pleased to direct that the following explanation be added to the exception to Article 591, Mysore Service Regulations:—"Full Daily Allowance may be granted in addition to Railway fare, where the duration of the halt at the destination is not less than 15 consecutive hours, whatever be the time of commencement or end of the halt."

B. SRINIVASA IYENGAR,

*Secretary to Government,
Financial Department.*

Travelling Allowances.

ORDER No. FL. 2649-2705—S. & A. 54-31-11, DATED 8TH OCTOBER 1931.

The following amendment to Article 632 of the Mysore Service Regulations is hereby issued:—

Page 195.

Article 632.

Delete clauses (c) and (d) of this Article as amended by correction slips No. 26 dated 17th November 1925 and No. 188, dated 27th January 1930.

B. SRINIVASA IYENGAR,

*Secretary to Government,
Financial Department.*

Amendments to Mysore Service Regulations in regard to Travelling Allowance Rates.

ORDER No. FL. 2805-2810—S. & A. 54-31, DATED 10TH OCTOBER 1931.

The following amendments to Mysore Service Regulations are hereby issued:—

Page 250.

Appendix Q.

Substitute the following for correction slips No. 46, dated 29th March 1926 and No. 85 (b), dated 16th May 1927 in regard to travelling allowance rates, admissible to the Government Advocate.

Government Advocate:—

Railway Fare	..	..	1½ times First Class.
Daily Allowance	..	..	Rs. 5
Road Mileage	...	..	Annas 6

Page 249.

Appendix P as introduced
by correction slip No. 137,
dated 6th August 1928.

Substitute the following against Road Mileage of list D:—

“A sum of Rs. 5 for every 20 miles or fraction thereof subject to the proviso that no mileage is admissible for places within a distance of 5 miles from a Railway Station.”

B. SRINIVASA IYENGAR,

Secretary to Government,

Financial Department.

Retrenchments in the Muzrai Department.

READ—

Recommendations of the Mysore Retrenchment Committee of 1931 regarding economies in the Muzrai Department.

ORDER No. 507-8—Muz. 84-31-1, DATED 6TH OCTOBER 1931.

The recommendations of the Retrenchment Committee in respect of the Muzrai Department are as follows:—

(1) Appointment of a Special Committee to consider how far Government may divest itself of the management of the Muzrai Institutions by decentralization of powers and otherwise and also to examine the application of Muzrai funds particularly, the chattram savings fund.

(2) Reduction of expenditure under travelling allowance and contingencies by 10 per cent.

(3) Reduction of State Grant for construction and repairs of Muzrai Institutions by Rs. 5,800.

2. Government have appointed (Government Order No. 162-7—Muz. 333-30-2, dated 31st January 1931), a mixed Committee of officers and non-official gentlemen for examining the possibility of effecting economies in the Muzrai Grants made for *Santharpane*.

3. Action has also been taken to retrench the grant from State Funds for construction and repairs of Muzrai Institutions as recommended by the Committee.

4. Instructions have been issued in Government Order No. FL. 1795-1850—G. F. 54-31-1, dated 14th September 1931 to curtail expenditure grants under travelling allowance by 25 per cent and economise the provisions made for purchase of articles of furniture, books or other equipment. The grant for contingencies will be reduced by Rs. 100.

B. SRINIVASA IYENGAR,

Secretary to Government,

Financial Department.

Retrenchment of Expenditure in the Excise Department.

READ—

Recommendations of the Mysore Retrenchment Committee, 1931, in regard to economies in the Excise Department.

2. Government Order No. Fl. 7691-4—Ex. 78-30-5, dated 14th April 1931, ordering the abolition, as a temporary measure, of the posts of District Excise Officers of Hassan and Shimoga with effect from 1st July 1931.

3. Government Order No. Fl. 9863-6—Ex. 88-30-4, dated 26—30th June 1931, approving of the proposals of the Retrenchment Committee as noted in the margin with slight modifications.

1. Abolition of Probationary Inspectors 3 (50) ...	Rs. 1,800
2. Reduction of establishment pertaining to 2 Ranges and 1 Sub-Range	
2 Inspectors at Rs. 60 + 25 fixed travelling allowance	
1 Assistant Inspector at Rs. 30+10	
2 Clerks at Rs. 25 each	
4 Tree-markers 2 (13) and 2 (12)	4,464
5 Peons 3 (11), 2 (10)	
Contingencies, House rent and Malnad Allowance Rs. 9.	
3. Carriage of liquor from Distillery to Bonded Depots	65
4. Contingencies.	367

4. Correspondence ending with letter No. Bl. 399 of 1931, dated 19th September 1931, from the Excise Commissioner, stating that he is effecting further savings as noted below:—

1. Absorption of Probationers resulting in a saving of Rs. 900 during the current year.
2. Reduction of 20 per cent in contingent expenditure.
3. Further reduction of Ranges and Sub-Ranges wherever possible.
4. Filling up the last place when a vacancy occurs in higher grades.
5. Stoppage of supply of Uniforms resulting in a saving of about Rs. 5,000.

ORDER No. FL. 2484-5—EX. 40-31-4, DATED 5—6TH OCTOBER 1931.

Government have accepted practically all the recommendations of the Retrenchment Committee and have given effect to them.

2. In accordance with the Government Order No. Fl. 1795-1850—G. F. 54-31-1, dated 14th September 1931, directing further economies in the Establishment, Travelling Allowance and Contingent charges of all Officers, the Excise Commissioner will surrender the marginally noted grants in his Department.

3. He is also requested to effect all possible economies in the supply of Uniforms and in other directions as agreed to in his letter of 19th September 1931 read above.

B. SRINIVASA IYENGAR,
Secretary to Government,
Financial Department.

Retrenchments and Economic in the Registration Department.

READ—

Extract from the report of the Mysore Retrenchment Committee, 1931, relating to the Registration Department.

1. Partial withdrawal of exemption from registration fees granted in regard to Co-operative Society transactions.
2. Withdrawal of exemption from Registration fees granted to Government Officers drawing Rs. 250 or less in connection with mortgage deeds executed by them on account of House Building and Motor Vehicle advances.
3. Withdrawal of exemption granted to Bank Memoranda of Deposits of Title Deeds.
4. Abolition and amalgamation of small Sub-Registry Offices, where possible.
5. Statement as on page 76 of Report.

2. Government Order No. Fl. 9333-5—Regis. 18-30-4, dated 19th June 1931, passing orders on the proposals for retrenchments in the establishment of the Registration Department.

3. Notification No. D. 311—C. S. 3-31-3, dated 16th—17th July 1931, remitting with effect from 1st August 1931, only

half the fees payable under the law of Registration in respect of instruments relating to the transactions of Co-operative Societies.

4. Notification No. Fl. 1893—Regis. 5-31-3, dated 18th September 1931, withdrawing the exemption granted under the law of Registration in respect of a mortgage deed executed by an Officer of Government whose pay does not exceed Rs. 250 for securing repayment of an advance received by him to Government for the purpose of constructing or purchasing a house or of purchasing a motor vehicle for his own use.

5. Notification No. Fl. 1896—Regis. 5-31-4, dated 18th September 1931, withdrawing the exemption payable under Article XIII (i) of the Table of Registration Fees in respect of Memoranda of Title Deeds received from Banks.

6. Letter No. C. 173-31-32, dated 18th September 1931, from the Inspector-General of Registration, reporting the items, as noted below in the budget grants of the Registration Department in which he proposes to effect savings.

(1) 1. Superintendence—	Savings.
Travelling allowance—	Rs.
Grant to be reduced from Rs. 400 to 300	.. 100
Contingencies— from 216 to 150	.. 66
2. District charges—	
Establishment—	
Abolition of four temporary hands on Rs. 20 each in certain Sub-Registry Offices	640 (for 8 months only)
Contingencies— (probable)	... 2,000
by withholding extra remuneration in Sub-Registry Offices out of copying fees realised.	

ORDER NO. FL. 2634-5—REGIS. 5-31-8, DATED 7TH OCTOBER 1931.

Government have already accepted the several recommendations of the Retrenchment Committee and given effect to them. Sanction is accorded to the further reductions and economies proposed by the Inspector-General of Registration in his letter, dated 18th September 1931, read above:

B. SRINIVASA IYENGAR,
*Secretary to Government,
Financial Department.*

Retrenchment in the Stamp Department.

READ—

Recommendations, as noted in the margin, of the Mysore Retrenchment Committee 1931, relating to the Stamp Department.

- (1) Partial exemption from stamp duty on instruments relating to transactions of Co-operative Societies.
- (2) Raising the rates of Court Fee payable on suits filed by Co-operative Societies in Registrar's Court from one-fourth to half.
- (3) Withdrawal of exemption from stamp duty granted in respect of mortgage deeds executed by a certain class of Government Officers in connection with House Building and Motor Vehicle advances.
- (4) Revision of the rates of stamp duty on "On demand promissory notes."
- (5) Reduction in the rate of discount paid to stamp vendors.
2. Government Order No. D. 309-10—C. S. 3-31-2, dated 15—17th July 1931, directing that half the rates levied in Civil Courts be levied on all suits and memoranda of appeal filed by Co-operative Societies in the Court of Registrar or Assistant Registrar with effect from 1st August 1931.
3. Notification No. D. 316—C. S. 3-31-4, dated 15—17th July 1931, remitting, with effect from 1st August 1931, only half the stamp duty with which instruments relating to transactions of Co-operative Societies are chargeable.
4. Notification No. FL. 1869—St. 7-31-7, dated 16—17th September 1931, cancelling the exemption from stamp duty granted in respect of a mortgage deed executed by a Government Officer drawing a salary of Rs. 250 or below in connection with the repayment of advance taken by him for construction or purchase of a house or motor vehicle.

ORDER NO. FL. 2621-32—ST. 13-31-1, DATED 7TH OCTOBER 1931.

Government have already accepted and passed orders on the first three recommendations of the Committee noted in the preamble.

2. The question of revision of the rates of stamp duty on "On demand promissory notes" on the lines of the rates prevailing in British India is also acceptable to Government. It is proposed to undertake the necessary legislation to give effect to the proposal.

3. The Commissioner of Stamps is requested to expedite his proposals in the matter of the reduction in the rates of discount payable to stamp vendors.

B. SRINIVASA IYENGAR,
*Secretary to Government,
Financial Department.*